

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STUTTG 00556 010242Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01

OMB-01 OC-05 CCO-00 /096 W

----- 124078

R 301410Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2884

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS STUTTGART 556

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB GW

SUBJ: GERMAN PRINTERS STRIKE

1. ON APRIL 28 GERMAN PRINTERS AND PAPERWORKERS UNION - IG DRUCK UND PAPIER (HEADQUARTERED IN STUTTGART) WENT ON STRIKE AFTER EMPLOYERS HAD REJECTED NINE PERCENT WAGE DEMAND OF UNION AND AFTER ARBITRATION RECOMMENDING 5.45 PERCENT WAGE RISE HAD FAILED. UNION DECISION WAS ANSWERED BY EMPLOYERS WITH A LOCK-OUT, LEAVING MOST OF WESTERN GERMANY WITHOUT DAILY NEWSPAPERS AND PARALYZING THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY.

2. PRINTERS UNION BOSS LEONHARD MAHLEIN BLAMED EMPLOYERS FOR FAILURE OF WAGE NEGOTIATIONS, WHILE THE EMPLOYERS PUT BLAME ON UNION.

3. IN TV INTERVIEW, MAHLEIN DID NOT INDICATE ANTICIPATED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STUTTG 00556 010242Z

DURATION OF STRIKE BUT SUGGESTED THAT IF UNION COFFERS ARE

INADEQUATE FOR A LONG-TERM STRIKE IT MAY EXPECT MONEY FROM THE DGB FUNDS AS WELL AS MORAL SUPPORT FROM OTHER UNIONS. JOHANNES BINKOWSKI, CHAIRMAN OF GERMAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION, STATED THAT NO END OF STRIKE IS IN SIGHT AND THAT PUBLISHERS ARE PREPARED FOR STRIKE OF SEVERAL WEEKS. ATTITUDE OF IG DRUCK UND PAPIER APPEARS TO BE UNREASONABLE AT A TIME WHEN GERMAN PRINTING INDUSTRY IS FACING SEVERE SECTORAL DIFFICULTIES, AND WHEN FOREIGN COMPETITION FROM BELGIUM AND FINLAND HAS ALREADY MADE INROADS ON GERMAN MARKET, RESULTING IN 20 PERCENT DECREASE IN EMPLOYMENT FROM 1974 TO 1975 AND 71 BANKRUPTCY CASES IN THE INDUSTRY IN GERMANY IN 1975. IT APPEARS THAT THIS YEAR THE GERMAN LABOR UNION FEDERATION - DGB- HAS SELECTED THE PRINTERS UNION TO BE A SPEAR-HEAD IN THE CURRENT WAGE NEGOTIATIONS TO TEST HOW FAR THE UNIONS MAY BE ABLE TO GO BEYOND THE MODERATE INCREASES ALREADY GRANTED METALWORKERS AND GOVERNMENT WORKERS (SEE STUTTGART 357 AND 474). BECAUSE OF THIS ISSUE THE EMPLOYERS MAY ADOPT A POSITION OF STRENGTH, THE MORE SO SINCE METALWORKERS BOSS EUGEN LODERER RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THE POSSIBILITY OF DEMANDING AN ADDITIONAL WAGE RISE IN THE CURRENT YEAR IF THE GERMAN ECONOMIC SITUATION IMPROVES FURTHER. RECENT EXPERT OPINIONS CONCERNING THE OUTLOOK OF THE GERMAN ECONOMY MAY HAVE STRENGTHENED THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNIONS TO TEST THE MAXIMUM WAGE INCREASE TO WHICH THE EMPLOYERS MAY BE WILLING TO AGREE. JENKINS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRINTING, PERSONAL OPINION, LABOR STRIKES, NEWSPAPERS, WAGE RATES, NEGOTIATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STUTT00556  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760166-1044  
**From:** STUTTGART  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t1976041/aaaaaapf.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisoob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 OCT 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 OCT 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <02 NOV 2004 by ellisoob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GERMAN PRINTERS STRIKE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, GE, (MAHLEIN, LEONHARD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006